



Fall 2009

Vol. 4, Issue 1

Mershon Memo

A newsletter of the Mershon Center for International Security Studies

Postdoc, visitors join Mershon

Several visitors will take up residence at the Mershon Center for 2009 and beyond.

Postdoctoral Fellow **Lisa Stampnitzky** received her Ph.D. in Sociology from the



Stampnitzky

University of California-Berkeley in 2008. She will expand her dissertation, "Disciplining an Unruly Field: Terrorism Studies and the State, 1972-2001," into a book.

Stampnitzky's work discusses the organization of expert knowledge on terrorism from the 1970s to the present. It examines the identification of terrorism as a state problem, the role of government in organizing the production of knowledge, and ongoing efforts of academic and practical experts to define the field.

Stampnitzky will speak on her project at noon on Wednesday, October 14.

Visiting Scholar **Mark Stewart** is director of the Centre for Infrastructure Performance and Reliability at University of Newcastle, Australia. He has received

See **Visitors** on back page

Mershon supports 11 students with study abroad scholarships

Some hope to have a career in the State Department, U.S. Military, or intelligence community. Others want to work for the World Health Organization or in economic development. Some seek positions in international law and public policy.

These are a few of the winners of the 2009-10 Ralph D. Mershon Study Abroad Scholarship awarded by the Mershon Center for International Security Studies. The scholarship supports students who aspire to careers related to international security. Two awards were given to students researching issues related to peace and conflict resolution.

Valerie Hendrickson,

one student winner, is a sophomore majoring in



Hendrickson

East Asian Studies with a focus on Chinese. She will attend the Chinese Language Flagship

Program in Qingdao for two months, studying Chinese to pursue her ambition of working in the intelligence community.

Another winner, **John Bolam**, will complete courses



Bolam

at Yonsei University's Korean Language Institute and take classes in political science and

international relations in South Korea. He hopes to pursue a career in the U.S. Foreign Service.

Dustin Koenig, a senior majoring in political science,



Koenig

will attend an intensive Russian language and culture program in Tomsk, Russia. He will live with a

host family and develop the language skills needed to pursue a future position in international public policy.

Logan West, a freshman international studies major, is in the Air Force ROTC. He will study Arabic at an intensive language program in Amman, Jordan, as part of his preparation for a career as an officer.



West

Other scholarship winners will be studying for an academic quarter or

longer in countries around the globe — including Syria, Spain, Russia, Brazil, France, and India.

Lowell Howard, a junior majoring in International Studies, will spend nine months taking courses in a Portuguese



Howard

language program in São Paulo, Brazil. He has completed internships at the Ohio Environmental Council and the Westerville Area Chamber of Commerce, working on fuel policy and commerce issues. During his time abroad, he plans to take economic policy courses, gaining skills for a career in international development.

Surili Sheth is a sophomore majoring in economics, political science, and philosophy who is pursuing research in peace and conflict resolution. She will participate in the Minnesota Studies



Sheth

International Development program in Jaipur, India.

See **Study Abroad** on back page

Mershon Center for International Security Studies

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-------------------|--------|-------------------|---|--|---|---|
| 20 | 21 | 22 | SEPTEMBER 23 <i>Fall quarter begins</i> | 24 | 25 <i>Noon, Mershon 120</i> Robert Pape | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 <i>Noon, Mershon 120</i> Mark Stewart | OCTOBER 1 | 2 <i>Conference</i> The 2008 U.S. Presidential Election | 3 <i>Conference</i> The 2008 U.S. Presidential Election |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 <i>3:30 p.m., Mershon 120</i> Susan Stokes | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 <i>Noon, Mershon 120</i> Lisa Stampnitzky | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 <i>Noon, Mershon 120</i> Mark Beissinger | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 <i>Conference</i> West Africa and the U.S. 'War on Terror' | 31 <i>Conference</i> West Africa and the U.S. 'War on Terror' |
| NOVEMBER 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 <i>3:30 p.m., Mershon 120</i> Nicholas Rankin | 5 <i>3:30 p.m., Mershon 120</i> Catherine Weaver | 6 <i>Noon, Mershon 120</i> Janice Bially Mattern | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 <i>Veterans Day</i> | 12 | 13 <i>Noon, Mershon 120</i> William Scheuerman | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 <i>Noon, Mershon 120</i> Elizabeth Borgwardt | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 <i>Thanksgiving</i> | 27 <i>Thanksgiving</i> | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | DECEMBER 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 <i>Fall quarter ends</i> | 5 |

Fall 2009 Calendar of Events



Pape

Friday, September 25, 2009

Robert Pape

**Professor of Political Science
University of Chicago**

"America's Relative Decline and Its Consequences"

Noon, Merhson Center Room 120



Kalu

Friday-Saturday, October 30-31, 2009

West Africa and the U.S. 'War on Terror'

Organized by Kalechi Kalu

Director, Center for African Studies

Merhson Center Room 120



Stewart

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

Mark Stewart

**Director, Centre for Infrastructure Performance
and Reliability, University of New Castle**

*"Critical Infrastructure Protection: Are We Spending Too
Much on Counter-Terrorism?"*

Noon, Merhson Center Room 120



Rankin

Wednesday, November 4, 2009

Nicholas Rankin

**Former Documentary Producer
BBC World Service**

*"Secrets and Lies: How the British Used Camouflage
and Deception in Two World Wars"*

3:30 p.m., Merhson Center Room 120



Weisberg

Friday-Saturday, October 2-3 2009

**The 2008 U.S. Presidential Election: The
Election That Rebranded the U.S. Abroad**

Organized by Herb Weisberg

Chair, Department of Political Science

Merhson Center Room 120



Weaver

Thursday, November 5, 2009

Catherine Weaver

**Associate Professor of International Relations
University of Texas-Austin**

*"The Politics of IO Accountability: Transparency and
Evaluation in the International Monetary Fund"*

3:30 p.m., Merhson Center Room 120



Stokes

Friday, October 9, 2009

Susan Stokes

**John S. Saden Professor of Political Science
Yale University**

"Vote Buying in Democratic Systems"

3:30 p.m., Merhson Center Room 120



Mattern

Friday, November 6, 2009

Janice Bially Mattern

**Associate Professor of International Relations
Lehigh University**

"The Emotional Politics of Transnational Crime"

Noon, Merhson Center Room 120



Stampnitzky

Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Lisa Stampnitzky

Postdoctoral Fellow

Merhson Center for International Security Studies

*"Disciplining an Unruly Field: Terrorism Studies and the
State, 1972-2001"*

Noon, Merhson Center Room 120



Scheuerman

Friday, November 13, 2009

William Scheuerman

**Professor of Political Science
Indiana University-Bloomington**

"What Cosmopolitans Can Learn From Classical Realists"

Noon, Merhson Center Room 120



Beissinger

Wednesday, October 21, 2009

Mark Beissinger

Professor of Politics, Princeton University

*"Imperial Reputations: How Sovereignty and Self-Deter-
mination Norms Have Altered the Politics of Empire"*

Noon, Merhson Center Room 120



Borgwardt

Wednesday, November 18, 2009

Elizabeth Borgwardt

**Associate Professor of History
Washington University, St. Louis**

*"The Mad Pursuit of a World Bill of Rights': Interna-
tional Legal Norms and the Senate after Nuremberg"*

3:30 p.m., Merhson Center Room 120

For more information and to reserve your spot, please see the Merhson Center web site at merhsoncenter.osu.edu

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Visitors

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Australian Research Council grants to develop cost-benefit assessments of counter-terrorism protective measures for critical infrastructure.

Stewart will present "Critical Infrastructure Protection: Are We Spending Too Much on Counter-Terrorism?" at noon on Wednesday, September 30.



Mujani

Also visiting is **Saiful Mujani**, founder of the Lemnaga Survei Indonesia (Indonesian Survey Institute). He will be working with Bill Liddle on the Indonesian National Election Project, a social scientific survey conducted in the wake of this year's national parliamentary elections in Indonesia.

Research foci include perceptions of Indonesian voters about political parties and leaders, as well as channels through which voters received information during the campaign.

Sangeeta Mahapatra, a Ph.D. student in International Relations at Jadavpur University in Kolkata, India, is visiting on a Fulbright-Nehru Fellowship to work on "Counterterrorism Strategies of India, Israel and the United States."



Mahapatra

The aim of the study is to expand the scope of counterterrorism decision-making by studying how the three countries use their political, legal, civilian and economic structures to deal with an outlier event.

In addition, visiting Fulbright scholar **Jean-François Juneau**, a Ph.D. student in history at University of Montreal, will work with Carole Fink on "Egon Bahr et l'Ostpolitik de la République fédérale d'Allemagne, 1945-1975."

Finally, **Jeffrey Hornung**, a postdoctoral fellow at the East Asian Studies Center, will spend this year working to turn his dissertation, "Learning How to Sweat: Explaining the Dispatch of Japan's Self-Defense Forces in the Gulf War and Iraq War," into a book.



Hornung

Study Abroad

Continued from Page 1

Her time abroad will contribute to her honors thesis on NGOs and public development projects in Ramapir No Tekro, the largest slum in the state of Gujarat. She will participate in an internship with an Indian NGO and take Hindi, preparing herself for future development work.

Ravi Gupta is also working in the field of peace and conflict resolution.

He is a senior majoring in political science and molecular genetics who will spend two months interviewing government health officials and collecting data on the role of health information in Rajasthan, India. He hopes to pursue a career in public health.

The scholarship competition had more

than 80 applicants this year. Unfortunately, the Mershon Center could fund only 11 applicants and had to make difficult choices among the growing number of Ohio State students recognizing the tremendous value of studying abroad.

The Mershon Center will fund another competition in 2010 and hopes students from across campus will apply.



Gupta